

No. R-137. House concurrent resolution honoring volunteer curator Jim Davidson and the Rutland Historical Society.

(H.C.R.101)

Offered by: Representatives Russell of Rutland City, Burditt of West Rutland, Canfield of Fair Haven, Carr of Brandon, Chesnut-Tangerman of Middletown Springs, Cupoli of Rutland City, Fagan of Rutland City, Gage of Rutland City, Helm of Fair Haven, McCoy of Poultney, Potter of Clarendon, Shaw of Pittsford, Tate of Mendon, and Terenzini of Rutland Town

Offered by: Senators Collamore, Flory, and Mullin

Whereas, Jim Davidson is a history graduate of St. Anselm's College and taught history at Mount Saint Joseph Academy (1960–1979), and

Whereas, in writing his University of Kansas master's thesis, facilitated with a National Experienced Teacher Fellowship, Jim Davidson became acquainted with the State's local historical societies and recognized the important preservation, educational, and outreach roles they serve in their respective cities and towns, and

Whereas, in 1969, Jim Davidson was one of the founding members of the Rutland Historical Society (RHS) and has served with great pride and enthusiasm as the society's volunteer curator for 46 years, and

Whereas, he held this position on a part-time basis while still at MSJ and during his years as the respected Castleton State College (CSC) Registrar from 1979–1994, and

Whereas, on his retirement from CSC, Jim Davidson turned his full attention and talent as an idea creator and historian, to his curatorial duties at RHS, and

Whereas, Jim Davidson's diligent and meticulous work has helped develop the RHS, headquartered since 1993 in the former Nickwackett Fire Station on Center Street in Rutland, into the proud home of an interesting archive of artifacts and printed, hand written, and photographic documents, and

Whereas, he is especially proud of the society's broadcast and digital projects, including a collaborative document scanning project with the Rutland Public Library, the monthly public access television program *Historically Speaking*, and the RHS's great website that provides a gateway to the society's holdings, and

Whereas, in 1970, the RHS began publishing a quarterly newsletter (now the *News from Nickwackett*) and in 1978 issued its first book, *Rutland in Retrospective*, and subsequent volumes it has released under the RHS imprint include *Early Families of Rutland, Vermont* (1990) and *History of Rutland, Vermont 1761–1861* (1991), and

Whereas, in 2007, Jim Davidson was named a Fellow of the Vermont Academy of the Arts and Science, now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly honors volunteer curator Jim Davidson and the Rutland Historical Society, and be it further

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to Jim Davidson and to the Rutland Historical Society.